

Revolution

In 1765 colonists said they were loyal to King George III and proud to be Britons.
How did that change?



Colonial Union

"Join, or Die," by Benjamin Franklin, 1754

Courtesy of Library of Congress

What began as disagreement over particular British policies quickly became a deeper dispute over government. Neither king nor Parliament listened to colonial grievances. Many Americans believed that English authorities were influenced by wealthy private interests and personal ambitions. Even the British people seemed to think that colonists should have fewer rights than Britons at home.

“ **We have it in our power to begin the world over again. . .**

Thomas Paine, *Common Sense*, 1776

In 1776 many Americans made a great leap to a new idea: maybe they could do without monarchy and aristocracy. If they could unite with one another, the people of the colonies might form their own, more equal society and government. Maybe the people were enough.

Hours & Admission

Open every day, except December 25, from 10:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Admission is free and no tickets are required.

Location & Contact

1300 Constitution Ave NW,
Washington, DC 20560 <<https://www.google.com/maps/place/smithsonian+national+museum+of+american+history/@38.8912835,-77.0322449,17z>>

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